

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
AND
DECISION RECORD
Dorena Tree Improvement Center
Office Construction
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-01-3

BACKGROUND

The Dorena Tree Improvement Center, Umpqua National Forest, proposes to replace two existing temporary office trailers with a new office. This proposal includes full utility connections, a water reservoir to meet fire protection requirements, and the realignment of the entrance. The Dorena Tree Improvement Center is located on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in Township 20S, Range 2W, Sec. 31 and 32, and Township 21S, Range 2W, Sec. 5 and 6. Under a 1984 cooperative agreement with the Eugene District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Center manages areas designated for seed orchards, a research nursery, and an administrative site. Thus, the Eugene BLM District Manager is the appropriate responsible official for this decision.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

On the basis of the information contained in the EA (OR090-01-3) and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the Proposed Action or alternatives will not have significant environmental impacts beyond those already addressed in the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (June 1995), with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement or a supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

DECISION

It is the decision of the Bureau of Land Management to select the Proposed Action, described in the Dorena Office Construction EA (No. OR090-01-3). The EA and FONSI analyzed the selected alternative and found no significant impacts. An environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

The selected alternative is in conformance with the following document:

"Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan," June 1995.

ALTERNATIVES

In addition to the Proposed Action (Alternative B), the EA considered three other alternatives in detail: Alternative A (No Action) would involve no management activities at this time (EA, p. 6). Alternative C would locate a newly constructed office on the existing office site, removing the existing temporary trailer offices. Alternative D would locate the new office building east of the existing office trailers (EA, p. 6).

RATIONALE FOR SELECTION

The principal factors in selecting the Proposed Action included visibility to the general public and clients of the Dorena Tree Improvement Center, efficient utilization of existing infrastructure, and location relative to work flows to facilitate efficient use of the administrative site. The Proposed Action (Alternative B) satisfies these factors better than the No Action Alternative (Alternative A) and the remaining action alternatives (Alternatives C and D). As stated in the EA (page 7), the Proposed Action would provide the best sense of arrival for visitors and clients, and the best aesthetic setting for an office building. In addition, the Proposed Action would separate employee personal vehicle and visitor vehicle traffic from work vehicles and large delivery trucks, creating more efficient use of work areas around the greenhouses. Although the action alternatives C and D have some of these attributes, neither addresses the principal selection factors to the same extent as the Proposed Action.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

None of the alternatives were determined to have effects on threatened or endangered species. Therefore, no formal consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act was necessary.

A public notice advertising the availability of the EA appeared in the Cottage Grove Sentinel on October 25, 2000, and the Eugene Register-Guard on October 26, 2000 . A 30-day public comment period closed on November 27, 2000. No comments were received.

ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OPPORTUNITIES

The decision to implement the Proposed Action may be appealed to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR Part 4. If an appeal is taken, the notice of appeal must be filed in this office within thirty (30) days of the publication of the notice of this decision in the Eugene Register-Guard

for transmittal to the Board. A copy of the notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs, must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, 500 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 607, Portland, Oregon, 97323, within the same time frame. In taking an appeal, there must be strict compliance with the regulations. In accordance with 43 CFR 4.21, an appellant has the right to petition the Office of Hearing and Appeals to stay the implementation of the decision; however, an appellant must show standing and present reasons for requesting a stay of the decision. The petition for stay must be filed together with a timely notice of appeal. 43 CFR 4.21(a)(2).

Signed by: Polly Elliott
Acting District Manager
Eugene District
Bureau of Land Management

Date: December 8, 2000